COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

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## Congress of the United States House of Representatives

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March 22, 2018

Richard Anderson President and Chief Executive Officer Amtrak One Massachusetts Ave. NW Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Mr. Anderson:

West Virginia enjoys scenic beauty that's second to none, and many Americans experience all that West Virginia has to offer with a ride on the Cardinal line through the southern part of our state. The Cardinal line makes seven stops in my district in the communities of White Sulphur Springs, Alderson, Hinton, Prince, Thurmond, Montgomery and Huntington, as well as an additional stop in Charleston, West Virginia.

It is my understanding that Washington-New York Penn Station Cardinal line service will be halted until mid-November to allow for track work outside Penn Station. This means that West Virginians using the Cardinal line will be forced to transfer to continue their journey, adding time and inconvenience. The additional transfer may also discourage residents in the New York area from using the Cardinal and experiencing West Virginia for themselves.

Track work and its accompanying delays may be unavoidable, but I urge you to restore full Cardinal route service as soon as possible. The Cardinal line is a vital transportation link for West Virginians and must be preserved. As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have worked diligently to provide much-needed funding for Amtrak's national network of long-distance routes, including the Cardinal line.

Amtrak has a strong history and heritage in West Virginia. Cardinal route service should be restored as quickly as possible and that the elimination of the Washington-New York Penn segment must not be made permanent.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Evan Jenkins

Member of Congress

OFFICE MISSION

"To ensure the people of the Third Congressional District of West Virginia have the greatest opportunity to live free and prosperous lives by serving, communicating, protecting and representing them in a professional and caring manner."